

work and extraordinary accomplishment in service to our great Nation. His contributions to Southeast Texas are immeasurable. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Bill G. Masters and his family a pleasurable and well-deserved retirement.

Congratulations, Mr. Masters, on a job well done.

COMMENDING THE CEDARTOWN, GEORGIA LITTLE LEAGUE, HOSTS TO THE 2000 SOUTHERN REGION JUNIOR LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT, AUGUST 4-11, 2000

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Little League Baseball is an American institution, yet many American don't realize it wasn't founded in 1939, in Williamsport, PA by Carl Stotz. At that time, a \$30 donation was sufficient to sponsor the first three teams. Since that time, Little League Baseball has experienced phenomenal growth that has imbedded it deeply into American culture.

In 1953, the Little League World Series was televised for the first time by CBS: Howard Cosell announced the play-by-play action for ABC radio. In 1955, Cy Young made his last visit to the Little League World Series before his death in September. By that time Little League Baseball was played in all 48 states. In 1959, a National Little League Week was proclaimed for the second week of June by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to honor this portion of America's past time, and in 1964, Little League Baseball was granted a Charter of Federal Incorporation by the United States Congress. Paying tribute to the young athletes, and for his love of the game, former Little League and Harvard baseball player, Vice President George Bush threw out the first pitch of the 1981 Little League World Series.

Though America's past time, baseball is far from America's exclusive sport. In 1951, the first Little League was formed outside the United States, in British Columbia, and since then, Little League has spread throughout Mexico, Europe, and Asia. In 1982, the game was even able to break through the "iron curtain" to provide Poland, a then Eastern Bloc Country, certificates of Charter.

This year, from August 4 through August 11, 2000, the Cedartown, Georgia Little League Organization, including members of the teams, coaches, and parents, will, with great pride, host the 2000 Southern Region Junior League Championship Tournament. Teams will be competing for the opportunity to advance to the Little League World Series Tournament in Taylor, Michigan, beginning August 14th. There are 13 states in the Southern Region. Little League teams (which consist of 12 to 14 players and three coaches) from each State will be playing their very best, in hopes of securing a trip to Michigan. ESPN will be on hand to cover all the scheduled games.

Little League activities and tournaments are designed to be 100% funded through corporate, business, and individual contributions. Just a few of the Little League Corporate sponsors are Bubblicious Gum, DNA Insur-

ance, American Honda, MUSCO Sport Lighting, MYTEAM.COM, New Era, RC Cola, Realtime Memories.com, Russell Corporation, Sport Supply Group, TV Guide, Welch's Foods, and Wilson Sporting Goods Company.

Approximately three million children in countries all around the globe enjoy playing Little League baseball. The program is supported on the local level by adult volunteers from within the community. These volunteers give freely of their time to provide a wholesome, family oriented activity for the children in their community.

I want to take this opportunity to salute the families, sponsors, and community leaders who will welcome these young people, their coaches, and their families to Cedartown, Georgia; and who will join with them in enthusiastic participation in this important, and positive American institution for the children of their community. The local teams, their coaches, and members of the community, have been busy with fund-raisers, requests for corporate donations, in order to secure funds to pay for food and lodging for the 13 guest teams and their coaches. Whether in Cedartown, Georgia, Warsaw, Poland, or Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Little League Baseball provides children of all backgrounds, from the local to the global level the opportunity to compete fairly and proudly for their community, their state, and their country.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4811) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Burton amendment.

In these times of budget surpluses, and when we are working so hard to encourage emerging democracies, why are we debating an amendment today that proposes to cut aid to the largest democracy in the world? India is a nation with a great potential and tremendous opportunities, but with over 500 million people living at or below the World Bank's poverty line, India remains a nation with tremendous human needs. United States bilateral aid programs in India make a modest, yet important, contribution to the welfare of India's citizens.

Cutting this assistance would be a deliberate attempt to not only torpedo our help for human welfare, but also to stigmatize India just as relations between the world's two great democracies are on the cusp of attaining a new and positive relationship. The Burton amendment, in effect, will undo all the progress that has been made in building a warm and productive relationship with India.

India is the world's largest democracy. The Indian press corps is among the most active in the world and frequently investigates human

rights abuses. India has a fiercely independent Human Rights Commission which has instituted a process to receive complaints, initiate investigations of all claims, and the country has passed laws and taken action against those officials and members of security forces who commit human rights abuses.

Prime Minister Vajpayee has been outspoken in his condemnation of ethnic and religious violence in India. He has declared that his government "is resolved that perpetrators of violence should be dealt with firmly and that exemplary punishments should be awarded to them." And in a recent visit to Vatican and meeting with the Pope, the Prime Minister reiterated his commitment to "protect all minority communities and ensure an atmosphere of communal harmony."

The best response to human rights violations in India is for us to help India promote democracy and encourage India to improve its human rights records. This cannot be achieved by cutting off aid, but it can be accomplished by engaging India in a positive and constructive dialogue.

As the locus of international terrorism shifts from the Middle East to South Asia, India has become a critical democratic ally to the United States and has helped to protect our interests in the region. It would be wrong for us to turn our back on our ally, especially on a staunch democracy such as India.

Mr. Chairman, President Clinton's historic visit to India last March established a new understanding between India and the United States, and has allowed the relationship between our two democracies to flourish. The Burton amendment will go great damage to the historic progress that was made in bilateral relations between our two nations.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the Burton amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF ENRIQUE "HENRY" MARTINEZ

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, there are those that stand on the sidelines of life, letting others take on the difficult tasks that make communities stronger. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a gentleman, Mr. Enrique Martinez, who has refused to be an observer, but rather has passionately given of his time and talents. Henry, as he is known to his many friends, has dedicated many hours throughout his lifetime for the betterment of our community, building our quality of life, and making a difference in peoples lives.

The son of Jessie and Maria Martinez, Henry was born in 1943 in San Antonio, TX. One of eight children, Henry learned the strength of family and how by working together great things could be accomplished. Working in the farm fields of our great Nation during his youth, Henry came to appreciate the value of hard work and discipline to accomplish goals. These attributes would serve him well as a golden glove boxer and later when he served as a member of our military in the U.S. Army in Germany.

In 1966, Henry married the former Teresa Pineda. Lovers of life, and childhood friends,